

**Abstract of the Invention**

**Angiotensin Converting Enzyme Homolog and Therapeutic and  
Diagnostic Uses Therefor**

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The present invention relates to the discovery of novel genes encoding an angiotensin converting enzyme, Angiotensin Converting Enzyme-2 (ACE-2). The invention provides therapeutics, prognostic and diagnostics methods for treating blood pressure related disorders as well as various types of allergic conditions, among others. Also disclosed are screening assays for identifying compounds for treating and preventing these conditions.

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